

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RECEIVED

JUN 17 2003

02-277

From: Chris_Singleton@oxy.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 10:39 AM
Subject: FCC Media Ownership Regulations

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary

This was an email I just sent to Mr. Powell and to my congressman, and senators. You should also be aware of how I believe a majority of Americans feel on this issue.

Dr. Mr. Powell,

I have become painfully aware of the influence that big corporate America has upon governmental agencies such as yours in recent years, and one such incident that exemplifies this is the recent relaxation of media ownership regulations. Not only were many corporations already violating existing regulations without prosecution, but they then petitioned to relax the regulations which your agency has now granted.

I feel that this is not in my best interest, nor in the countries best interest but only in the interest of media giants. While a few years go low power FM was an issue which I was definitely FOR, for the diversity of local news and information, the media giants managed to stop it. Now, they want more than what is good for America, and your administration is not only complicit with them, but go out of your way to make it happen. I am therefore obligated to inform you that I will personally start a grass roots movement in my area to not only repeal this relaxation of regulations on them, but to have you removed from office. You have demonstrated that you are not for the people, but looking out for who has the purse strings first. Fortunately we still live in a Democracy where votes have the loudest voice. You want to redeem yourself? Open up low power FM again and let the real voice of America speak!

Sincerely,
Chris Singleton

P S I am historically a straight Republican party ticket voter, but this is going to backlash on the Republican party as I can see the Democrats are going to get some of my support over this issue

From: WAdams62@aol.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 11:20 AM
Subject: BROADCAST OWNERSHIP RULES

The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner

Dear Mr. Adelstein,

I urge you NOT to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

William D. Adams
Houston, Texas 77077-4944

From: Peter Merlin
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 11:22 AM
Subject: <No Subject>

Thank you for your efforts to stop the ruling.
Peter F Merlin

From: elshano4@hotmail.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 11:47 AM
Subject: Don't allow big media to get even bigger

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

On June 2, you will vote on a proposal to allow the same company to own newspapers, and television and radio stations in local communities. This multiple ownership will create a monopoly of information that threatens a diverse, independent, and competitive media. The concentration of ownership is not in the interest of an informed citizenry necessary in a democratic society.

I urge you to support democracy by voting against this proposed rule. Don't allow big media to get even bigger.

Sincerely,
Shane McElroy
Birmingham, AL

From: elshano4@hotmail.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 11:48 AM
Subject: Don't allow big media to get even bigger

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

On June 2, you will vote on a proposal to allow the same company to own newspapers, and television and radio stations in local communities. This multiple ownership will create a monopoly of information that threatens a diverse, independent, and competitive media. The concentration of ownership is not in the interest of an informed citizenry necessary in a democratic society.

I urge you to support democracy by voting against this proposed rule. Don't allow big media to get even bigger.

Sincerely,
Shane McElroy
Birmingham, AL

From: Christopher Frick
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 12:15 PM
Subject: I do not support your new ruling

Your arguments that there are new channels to gain information and that no one was hurt when there were only a few broadcast stations are insubstantial and pointless.

On the first point there are too few people connected to the internet and too few of the sources are peer reviewed to make this a viable argument.

On the second point the old days of which you have referred were before the power of television and broadcast was fully realized.

It has been hard enough to watch my fellow Americans listen to and believe the propaganda that came from the right-wing media outlets that dominate broadcast and cable these days. These are angry hate-filled bullying voices. In my life I have watched the death of discourse and true debate. I have watched this on mass market television. The fundamental skills of democracy are no longer visible through existing mass market media.

I concede that broadcasters have always had to take the sponsors views into account but, the impartial voices are really gone from mass-media.

Massive consolidation of media ownership will result in the marginalization of any opinions counter to those that benefit the wealthiest and most powerful voices.

I really don't agree with your statement that this is pro-consumer. This is an example of the kind of "spin" that is so cynically used by our administration and supported by mass media.

The FCC should be trying to protect the diversity of opinions in this great country not eliminating diversity as you have done.

You have made a decision that will make America uglier, less tolerant, more stupid, and less free.

Take no pride in this. You acted as puppets.

Christopher Frick
2915 East Republican Street
Seattle, WA 98112

From: Christopher Frick
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
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2915 East Republican Street
Seattle, WA 98112

From: Judy Schneider
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 12:25 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Judy Schneider (judysch@premier1.net) writes:

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

I cannot believe that the majority of FCC commissioners just voted to extend the ability of large conglomerates to own media despite the overwhelming opposition for this act.

Do the wishes of the people not count anymore under this administration? Adding up issues - the presidential election for starters, the shaky precepts of cause for the Iraq war, the appointment of doctors to the FDA who believe menopausal help for women should only consist of prayer and reading the Bible, this FCC issue and the strong message that if "you're not with us, you're not American," - it's feeling more and more to many of us that we're disenfranchised. This media ownership change was so opposed by so many different types of people, companies and political persuasions that it feels very much like the FCC majority had an agenda they were determined to push despite common sense analysis.

I'm very concerned about many aspects of the future of this country as much is happening under this administration that will impact our country for decades and will be almost impossible to reverse.

Shame on those in positions of authority that should be listening to all sides!

Sincerely,

Judy Schneider

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 64.38.140.4
Remote IP address: 64.38.140.4

From: Karl Rebay
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 12:26 PM
Subject: Media Ownership Rules

I feel that the commissioners' recent decision to relax the media ownership rules was completely irresponsible. I am a republican and most of the time, I feel that the government should keep their hands out of our personal lives. However, in this case, what you have done is going to allow media Giants (Viacom, Disney, etc.) to further monopolize the media and dictate what we get to see, hear and read. You have also certainly done a wonderful job to make it more difficult for smaller entities to start and operate TV and radio stations; stations that bring some actual quality and responsibility in their programming unlike the garbage that the large networks provide.

Thanks for pandering to big money and completely abandoning the public who pays your salary. You should all be proud.

Karl Rebay
Brea, CA

From: Karl Rebay
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
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Karl Rebay
 Brea, CA

From: Cherilyn Price
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 12:35 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Cherilyn Price (cprice9561@aol.com) writes:

Dear Commissioner Adelstein,

I just wanted to quickly thank you for your grandiloquent defense of American citizen's rights to public airwaves that are free from a concentration of media ownership. Thank you too for your opposing vote to the majority; I am grateful to have your representation in the FCC.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.0
Remote host: 64.168.4.20
Remote IP address: 64.168.4.20

From: gonetraveling2@hotmail.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 12:51 PM
Subject: Don't allow big media to get even bigger

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

On June 2, you will vote on a proposal to allow the same company to own newspapers, and television and radio stations in local communities. This multiple ownership will create a monopoly of information that threatens a diverse, independent, and competitive media. The concentration of ownership is not in the interest of an informed citizenry necessary in a democratic society.

I urge you to support democracy by voting against this proposed rule. Don't allow big media to get even bigger.

Sincerely,
Amy Pashov
Kennewick, WA

From: gonetraveling2@hotmail.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 12:51 PM
Subject: Don't allow big media to get even bigger

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

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Kennewick, WA

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Amy Pashov
Kennewick, WA

From: Earl Newborn
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 12:58 PM
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

Earl Newborn (newborn@ioa.com) writes:

Commissioner Adelstein:

Thanks for voting for democracy and against corporate greed in the matter of further concentration of media ownership.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 158.253.208.180
Remote IP address: 158.253.208.180

From: Spanda_web@yahoo.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 1:05 PM
Subject: Don't allow big media to get even bigger

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

On June 2, you will vote on a proposal to allow the same company to own newspapers, and television and radio stations in local communities. This multiple ownership will create a monopoly of information that threatens a diverse, independent, and competitive media. The concentration of ownership is not in the interest of an informed citizenry necessary in a democratic society.

I urge you to support democracy by voting against this proposed rule. Don't allow big media to get even bigger.

Sincerely,
Stefan Pashov
Kennewick, WA

From: DTVSDUDE@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 1:06 PM
Subject: Hey Big Brother

Hello:

I am a concerned free (for now) citizen of the USA. I am appalled at the FCC decision to allow our media to be controlled and you know what I am talking about. Could you please take the time and in everyday plain English explain to me what will be gained by this decision other than Power and greed for the large corporations who will soon control all of our media. I live in a small town which gets a lot of dangerous weather in the form of tornados. Now that all of our TV stations will be prerecorded mass produced propaganda just as our radio stations are-we will never get the local weather. It is very spotty as it is. You have sold your soul to the devil and sent a lot of our freedoms and rights down the tubes as well. This is one more step to a world controlled by Big Brother and I implore you to reconsider your decision. Thank you for your time if you have read to this point. D. VanSant
Ps Even if you assure me that I will get local and timely weather reports- I am still adamantly opposed to your decision based purely on the rights of liberty, freedom and justice for all and what used to be the American way.

From: Spanda_web@yahoo.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 1:08 PM
Subject: Don't allow big media to get even bigger

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

On June 2, you will vote on a proposal to allow the same company to own newspapers, and television and radio stations in local communities. This multiple ownership will create a monopoly of information that threatens a diverse, independent, and competitive media. The concentration of ownership is not in the interest of an informed citizenry necessary in a democratic society.

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From: Rt66wildturkey@cs.com
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, kimweb@fcc.gov, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 1:35 PM
Subject: Ownership of Media Outlets

I was disappointed to see that you knuckled under to "Big," rather than continue to protect the right to receive opposing sides of issues.

We do not need our ever controlled broadcast information coming from smaller and more controlled sources. Here in Colorado we already have problems with getting the full extend to things since the Denver Post and Rocky Mountain News basically combined into one.

BIG is NOT GOOD. We have seen it many times this past few years, i.e., Enron, the Airlines (United and American). Now we will have to either listen or TUNE OUT the same "party line" prattle from BIG information media outlets.

Really to say I am disappointed is putting it mildly.

Big Business breeds failure, i.e., CEOs and CFOs who after destroying masses of workers lives are allowed to stroll away with their millions while groups like you just sit and twiddle your thumbs and say "Oh shame."

Edward A. Coulter

From: Rt66wildturkey@cs.com
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Edward A. Coulter

From: Barry Welch
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 1:42 PM
Subject: FCC rules

Hello Ms. Abernathy,

I am an American citizen who is quite concerned about the coming vote on relaxing the limits on the amount of major media outlets that can be owned in any given market. This includes television, radio, and printed media.

Since the previous relaxing of limits, and with the results of the Telecommunications Reform Act of 1996, American media has gone through much consolidation. This has resulted not only in a very limited number of opinions and outlets, but our programming of television and radio has gone downhill so bad, that I refuse to watch much television or listen to radio at all. I do tend to watch some news programs and night time talk shows, and I do sample some radio, but it all is the same thing on every network for television, and for radio. I tend to travel considerably, and every city in America, its the same thing everywhere. The newspapers are not much better. Less people buy newspapers now because there frankly isn't much content nor any actual deviation from anything else we are given.

We have a population that is becoming less educated and forced to an intake of stupid "reality" shows and really poor programming. With so few media companies owning everything now, there is not much escape. Even with all of the stations on cable TV, we are forced to watch a relentless amount of advertisements and most stations are owned by the same corporations who bias on their own agendas.

If the vote next week on the relaxing of these limits goes the way of further deregulation, not only will this situation worsen, American Democracy may be at stake as well. We need ways to open up more varied ownership of media outlets, not consolidate them more. There is no objective reporting on the news anymore. With fewer players in the game, we will be only subjected to the forced opinions and bias of the few. This is NOT healthy for Democracy.

As a taxpaying loyal American citizen, I ask that instead of bowing to pressure from large media conglomerates with lots of cash and pressure who are already bending the ownership rules, please do not allow this to go through. It should be, and traditionally has been the mission of the FCC to protect the public interest first. Allowing further consolidation of our media does NOT serve the public interest.

Respectfully Yours,

Barry Welch
9203 Robins Nest Lane
Austin TX 78729-4534
barryw@io.com

From: Barry Welch
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 1:46 PM
Subject: FCC rules

Hello Mr. Adelstein,

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Respectfully Yours,

Barry Welch
9203 Robins Nest Lane
Austin TX 78729-4534
barryw@io.com

From: Mary_19107
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 1:56 PM
Subject: Congratulations

Dear Commissioner Abernathy:

Congratulations on taking such an active part in the castration of the American people. I am sure you were well rewarded by the corporate media interests. Was it enough? That you ignored the requests by Americans to hold hearings on your deregulation was galling, that you were on the take from the likes of the National Association of Broadcasters and the likes of Rupert Murdoch is criminal. I hope the Department of Justice is intricate in its look into your wining and dining by the corporate media.

sincerely,
Don Nash
284 E. Vine Street
Murray, Utah
84107
(801)281-1641

From: davekrueger@juno.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 2:07 PM
Subject: Don't allow big media to get even bigger

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

On June 2, you will vote on a proposal to allow the same company to own newspapers, and television and radio stations in local communities. This multiple ownership will create a monopoly of information that threatens a diverse, independent, and competitive media. The concentration of ownership is not in the interest of an informed citizenry necessary in a democratic society.

I urge you to support democracy by voting against this proposed rule. Don't allow big media to get even bigger.

Sincerely,
Rev. Dave Krueger
Philadelphia, PA

From: davekrueger@juno.com
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 2:08 PM
Subject: Don't allow big media to get even bigger

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

On June 2, you will vote on a proposal to allow the same company to own newspapers, and television and radio stations in local communities. This multiple ownership will create a monopoly of information that threatens a diverse, independent, and competitive media. The concentration of ownership is not in the interest of an informed citizenry necessary in a democratic society.

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Sincerely,
Rev. Dave Krueger
Philadelphia, PA

From: Vince Ivory
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 2:26 PM
Subject: deregulation

Dear Mr. Adelstein,

Thanks to you and Mr. Copps for your principled opposition to further deregulation of media. Your efforts to include the public in a wider discussion of these serious issues distinguish you from the majority on the FCC.

I'm not sure where things will go from here, but it's not over.

Be well,
Vince Ivory
Los Angeles, CA

From: Envirolife29@aol.com
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 2:41 PM
Subject: Please vote NO on Monday

We urge you to vote NO to the media expansion rulings.
Thank You,
The Chartier Family

From: Bill Dalbey
To: Kathleen Abernathy
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 3:03 PM
Subject: FCC ownership rule changes

So, you chose to ignore the people you are supposed to represent. Even though 83% of Americans do not favor further monopolization of the media, you went ahead and sold out to the media conglomerates.

You should be ashamed. You are pushing your own ideological agenda, not looking out for the interests of the American people. Your political beliefs (in the allmighty power of deregulation, for example) should have no bearing on your duty as an FCC commissioner.

If you think the people are going to lie down and let you steamroll us in the name of big business you have another think coming. We're mad as hell and we're not going to take it anymore. I hope you enjoy your upcoming visits to Las Vegas, compliments of your big media masters, because you're not going to be a commissioner much longer.

Sincerely,

Bill Dalbey

From: Mcinerneypf@aol.com
To: Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein
Date: Tue, Jun 3, 2003 12:05 AM
Subject: Outrageous!!

To the majority Republicans,

Your decision to-day was incredible and flies in the face of all democratic values in our society.

Unless it is reversed here is one less Republican vote in 2004.

The cumulative impact of these type of decisions is what will ensure a one-term presidency for George Bush.

Mr. Powell , you appear to be an intelligent man. .please resign and get a real job outside Washington,

My concern is that in your present position you are compromising your father, who was always respected for his integrity and honesty His statements recently are becoming more orchestrated and are straining our credibility worldwide.

It is clear that the public wants to limit the monopolisation of the media, and the F.C.C. has been a recipient of an overwhelming amount of e-mail to that effect.

To hear you question the validity of that input to-day was outrageous and insulting.

Your arrogance is astounding.

Starting to-morrow, I will exert every effort to have this decision reversed.

Sincerely,

Peter McInerney.